Audio Note

CONQUEROR

STEREO POWER AMPLIFIER

OWNER'S INFORMATION

Audio Note

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! IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION !

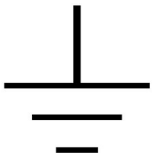
RISK OF SHOCK OR ELECTROCUTION! INTERNAL OPERATING VOLTAGES ARE LETHAL!

Do not remove top cover, unless specifically instructed to do so in the user manual.

This unit contains fuses and other safety components in accordance with BS60065 requirements.
In the event of failure, replacement fuse or safety component must be of the same part type and value.

SUCH REPLACEMENT MUST ONLY BE CARRIED OUT BY A QUALIFIED SERVICE TECHNICIAN.

Do not attempt to replace any fuses without first disconnecting the unit from the mains electricity supply.



This product must be earthed – ensure that the mains supply cable earth / ground is correctly connected.

This product generates high levels of heat. Adequate ventilation must be provided. Do not restrict airflow through any ventilation slots or place the unit on any surface that may restrict airflow.

Valve equipment operates at extremely high temperatures;
KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS.

Do not store or operate this unit in areas of high humidity or in close proximity to water / moisture.

Do not expose or immerse the unit in liquid of any kind.

OTHER SAFETY PRECAUTIONS: -

Never touch the power cord with wet hands.

Always remove the power cord by grasping the plug, not the cable.

Never expose the unit to excessive heat or magnetism.

Never let an inexperienced person repair or reassemble the unit.

Never put anything, especially metal objects, inside the unit.

Never place excessive weight on the unit.

CE DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

We declare under our sole responsibility that this product is in conformity with the following standards or standardized documents:

BS EN 60065 in accordance with the regulations 73/23/EEC, 89/336/EEC (from 1 January 1997)

CE 94

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DISPOSAL

This product must not be disposed of as normal household waste. To prevent possible harm to the environment please separate the product from other waste to ensure that it can be recycled in an environmentally safe manner. Please contact your retailer or the appropriate local government office for collection facilities.

POWER REQUIREMENTS

Power requirements for electrical equipment vary depending on your geographical location. Please ensure that your unit meets the power requirements in your area. The power requirement for your unit is marked on the serial number plate, located on the rear panel.

If you are in doubt, please contact your dealer before plugging the unit into the mains supply.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing this Audio Note (UK) product. With the correct care it should give you many years of pleasure and enjoyment.

Please take the time to read all of the information in this manual before connecting your new component to an electrical supply or your system, to ensure both your safety and satisfaction.

Please note that due to our desire to continually improve products, specifications are subject to change without notice. Therefore it is important to refer to the manual that is supplied with your product for the most accurate information; manuals downloaded from our website or obtained from other sources may no longer fully apply to your product.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained within this document or your new component, please feel free to contact us: -

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CONQUEROR STEREO POWER AMPLIFIER

Congratulations on your purchase of the Audio Note (UK) CONQUEROR stereo power amplifier.

It is a Pure Class A Singled Ended valve amplifier that uses the highly regarded 300B triode valve, producing a level of performance that is radically superior to the vast majority of current designs.

It has been specifically engineered for sonic performance rather than technical specification, and fulfills all Audio Note (UK) Level 3 criteria: -

Pure Class A operation
Zero Negative Feedback
Single Ended Output Stage
Valve Rectification
Directly Heated Triode operation
Materials and component quality

UNPACKING AND INSTALLATION

Please take care when unpacking your CONQUEROR stereo power amplifier. Choose a clean, clear location to unpack your unit. Be aware that the amplifier is very heavy; before attempting to unpack or lift the unit, check the weight and if necessary use more than one person so that it can be moved safely and easily.

We recommend that you retain and carefully store all of the original packing materials, in case transportation / shipping is required at a later date.

Select a suitable location for the unit. This should be a dry, dust free and level area, preferably shielded from direct sunlight and free from vibration. Also ensure that the location is stable and capable of carrying the weight of the unit.

A suitable mains power outlet must be close to the location; power cords must not be pulled or stretched tightly in an attempt to reach a wall socket. If the power cord will not easily reach the socket, choose a closer location!

Please ensure that adequate ventilation for the unit is provided, and that airflow through any ventilation slots in the unit is not restricted. We recommend a distance of at least 20cm free space is maintained above the unit, and preferably it should be sited in free space or on the top shelf of your equipment rack or table. Please also remember that valve equipment operates at extremely high temperatures, so a position that is inaccessible to any children or animals is essential.

VALVE INSTALLATION

The amplifier is shipped without its valve compliment installed. It is necessary to install the valves before operation.

It is essential that the valves are installed correctly or ***serious damage that is not covered by the warranty will result*. We recommend that your dealer perform this procedure for you if you are in any way unsure.**

FIRSTLY, ENSURE THAT THE AMPLIFIER **IS <u>NOT</u> CONNECTED TO A MAINS ELECTRICAL SUPPLY,** AND THAT THE POWER CORD **IS <u>NOT</u> CONNECTED TO THE AMPLIFIER.**

Now remove the valves that are packed inside the amplifier and carefully unwrap them. Also inspect the amplifier to check that nothing has become damaged or dislodged during transit.

2 x 300B output valves
2 x 6SN7 input stage valves
1 x 5U4G rectifier valve

Once again, please understand that it is absolutely vital these valves are fitted correctly.

Looking from the front of the amplifier install the 300B valves first. Inspect a 300B valve base and you will notice that two of the pins are larger than the other two; this is to help ensure that the valve can only be inserted one way.

Now examine the two large apertures located in the top plate of the amplifier, between the smaller front valve base apertures and the large, black, square transformer cover; you will notice that two of the four holes in each aperture are larger than the others. Line up the large pins on the base of the 300B valve and the large holes in each valve base, and with gentle but firm pressure insert the valve into its socket.

Next, examine the 6SN7 input stage valves. You will see that there is a rib on the central pin of each valve, which ensures that it can only be inserted into the valve base correctly. Locate this rib and align with the corresponding aperture in the centre of the valve base, located in the top plate at the front / centre of the amplifier. With gentle but firm pressure, insert the valve.

Next, examine the remaining 5U4G rectifier valve. You will see that there is a rib on the central pin of the valve, which ensures that it can only be inserted into the valve base correctly. Locate this rib and align with the corresponding aperture in the centre of the valve base, located in the top plate towards the rear of the amplifier, between the two large, black, square transformer covers. With gentle but firm pressure, insert the valve.

Check one more time that all of the 4 valves are correctly fitted!

CONNECTION

Line inputs Being a stereo power amplifier, the CONQUEROR is fitted with one pair of single ended / RCA inputs. Looking from behind the amplifier, they are located at the right hand side of the rear panel. The Black socket (top) is for the Left channel, the Red socket (bottom) is for the Right channel. Connect the output from your preamplifier to these inputs.

Speakers Each channel is equipped with 3 colour coded binding posts for connection to your speakers, located on the rear panel.
Looking from the rear of the amplifier, the 3 binding posts at the top are for the left channel and the 3 binding posts at the bottom are for the right channel.
Connect the amplifiers black speaker output binding post marked as "0" to the black / negative terminal (also marked " – ") on the speaker.

Connect the amplifiers red speaker output binding post marked "8 Ohm" to the red / positive terminal (also marked " + ") on the speaker. The other red speaker output binding post is marked "4 Ohm" and may be used with 4 Ohm speakers. If you are uncertain whether your speaker system is specified as 4 or 8 Ohm, try the following test once all other connections are made and the amplifier is operational. Compare the sound quality using a familiar recording with the speakers connected to the 8 ohm connections and then the 4 Ohm connections respectively. The selection that produces the best frequency balance and maximum dynamics should be used.

Mains The CONQUEROR uses an IEC 320 mains inlet socket. Use the supplied mains cable to connect the unit to the local mains supply. The mains fuse and a spare are located in the inlet socket fuse drawer.

Special Note – Make sure that all connections are tight and clean. For best results use good quality audio interconnects. Although it is perfectly acceptable to use cables manufactured by other companies, for best results and performance, we recommend our own Audio Note (UK) range of interconnects and loudspeaker cables. For further information, please consult your nearest Audio Note (UK) dealer, or alternatively please feel free to contact us directly.

OPERATION

Once all the connections are completed and checked, ensure that the volume control of your preamplifier / source is at the minimum setting.

Turn on all components in the signal chain BEFORE the CONQUEROR; it should always be the LAST component to be switched ON, and the FIRST to be switched OFF.

Turn on the amplifier by using the rocker switch located on the rear top right of the back panel, just above mains inlet socket.

Bedding in

The new amplifier requires about 100 hours of initial use (called "bedding in") before the circuitry becomes stable and optimum performance is realized.
As the amplifier "beds in" the sound will become increasingly smoother, detailed and open.
Once the amplifier has "bedded in" a warm up time of approximately 30 to 45 minutes is required each time the amplifier is switched on before optimum sonic performance is reached.

Cleaning

No special maintenance is required for the amplifier. Use a soft, clean lint free cloth to remove any surface marks from the casework. For finger marks / grease, use a soft, clean lint free cloth, lightly moistened with a solution of warm water and mild detergent. Do not use any alcohol or solvent based cleaning products, as they may damage the finish of the amplifier.

ENSURE THAT THE AMPLIFIER IS SWITCHED OFF AND DISCONNECTED FROM THE MAINS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BEFORE UNDERTAKING ANY CLEANING.

Valve Life

The valves supplied with your amplifier should provide approximately 6000 hours of operation. They are specially selected by us, and should only be replaced with matched pairs. Please consult your Audio Note (UK) dealer should your valves need replacing.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

INPUT IMPEDANCE	100k ohm, line level
INPUT SENSITIVITY	250mV for full output
MAXIMUM OUTPUT	8 watts RMS per channel into 4 or 8 Ohm loads
CHANNEL BALANCE	+/- 0.3dB
VALVE COMPLIMENT	2 x 6SN7 2 x 300B 1 x 5U4G
UNIT WEIGHT	20KG
SHIPPING WEIGHT (ORIGINAL PACKAGING)	30KG
UNIT DIMENSIONS	195mm (h) x 205mm (w) x 500mm (d)
SHIPPING DIMENSIONS (ORIGINAL PACKAGING)	295mm (h) x 320mm (w) x 610mm (d)
MAINS INPUT	AC 100-120V/220-240V 50/60 Hz
MAINS FUSE	2A Anti Surge (110/120V Supply) 1.2A Anti Surge (200/240V Supply) 400mA (Internal HT)
MAX. POWER CONSUMPTION	270 VA
NOTE	Due to Audio Note (UK)'s ongoing research and development program, specifications are subject to change without notice.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Audio Note (UK) warrants this product to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for two years from the original date of purchase from an appointed Audio Note (UK) dealer, and agrees to cover the cost of parts and associated labour required to correct such defects, subject to terms & conditions.

This Warranty is offered to the first purchaser only.

Any valves supplied with the unit are warranted for three months from the original date of purchase.

If the product fails in normal domestic use and during the Warranty period due to the above described faults or defects, Audio Note (UK) will, at its discretion, repair or replace the item free of charge within a reasonable time once it has been returned to Audio Note (UK) or an appointed Audio Note (UK) dealer or service engineer.

Audio Note (UK) is not liable for any shipping charges incurred whilst transporting the product to or from Audio Note (UK) or an appointed Audio Note (UK) dealer or service engineer, should the item require service or repair during or after the Warranty period.

If the product must be shipped, please use the original packaging materials and include a copy of the original sales receipt along with a note explaining, in as much detail as possible, the problems you are experiencing with the unit.

Only use a reputable Courier Service or Shipping Agent, and ensure that your product is insured during transit.

Any servicing, repairs or modifications not authorized by Audio Note (UK), or carried out by persons other than appointed Audio Note (UK) service engineers will invalidate any warranty.

This Warranty does NOT cover: -

Damage sustained whilst in the possession of a shipping agent, retailer or consumer and not caused as a direct result of defects in materials or workmanship.

Damage caused by normal wear and tear.

Damage or defects caused by abnormal or unreasonable use.

Damage caused by accident, acts of nature, misuse or neglect.

Damage caused by a failure to follow the operating and installation instructions supplied with the product.

Damage caused by improper or careless cleaning.

Audio Note (UK) reserves the right to refuse warranty for any component of which the serial number has been removed, defaced or tampered with.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If in the future your Audio Note (UK) product requires servicing, or if you require technical support or have any questions regarding this or any of our other products, please contact your local Audio Note (UK) dealer.

Alternatively, please feel free to contact us directly: -

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